

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-75 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claims 1, 9, 17, 68, 69 and 70 are amended; Claims 2-3, 10-11 and 18 are canceled; and no claims are added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-43 and 68-71 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,839,019 to Ito; and Claims 44-67 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Ito in view of U.S. Patent 6,943,921 to Nakata.

It is respectfully submitted that the applied art does not teach or suggest a reading type changing part changing a type of reading of a plurality of originals which include different types of originals in a mixed manner being read and the reading type changing part changes a type of reading of an original in response to a reading type change instruction input by an operator while the plurality of originals are being read, the reading type includes a type of an original as to whether the original has an image on a single side thereof or images on both sides thereof, as recited in Claim 1 and similarly recited in Claims 9, 68 and 69.

Nor does the applied art teach or suggest a paper inserting part inserting a predetermined paper sheet into a plurality of printing paper sheets based on a plurality of different types of originals in a mixed manner, the paper is inserted subsequent to a printing paper sheet on which an image of original read immediately before is formed in response to a paper inserting instruction input by an operator, during the plurality of originals being read, as recited in Claim 17 and similarly recited in Claim 70.

Additionally, the applied art does not teach or suggest that an original separating part which, in response to an original separating instruction input by an operator during a plurality

of originals having different types of originals in a mixed manner being read, forms an image of original immediately subsequent to reception of said instruction onto a printing paper sheet which is different from a printing paper sheet on which an image of original read immediately before the reception of said instruction is formed, as recited in Claim 19 and similarly recited in Claim 71.

Instead, Ito discusses that a single document is transported one sheet at a time by ADF 50 to a position on document platen 29, where the document is stopped, and an image is formed on a single copy sheet. Paper supply apertures 31, 33, and 11 are previously selected by the operator for the desired paper supply. In the two-in-one mode of Ito, two documents are consecutively fed by ADF 50 to predetermined positions on document platen 29 to be aligned side by side in the document transport direction. The documents are stopped and the images of both documents are copied onto the same surface of a single copy sheet. If the documents are A4 size, the documents are on tray 52 in the horizontal direction and conform to a vertical A3 size document when aligned side by side on document platen 29. Therefore, when copying to a vertical A4 size copy sheet, the copy magnification is set at 0.7078.

As discussed in col. 8 of Ito, in the cover page mode/partition page mode, if a document is of a different size or orientation than the first page among a group of documents, the document is designated a cover page document. If the document is the last page it is designated a back cover page, if the document is in an intermediate position in the group, it is designated a partition page document, and all other documents are common documents. Copy sheets for cover page documents and back cover page documents are fed from a supply aperture previously selected by an operator, and a copy is made. Copy sheets for a partition page document are fed from a supply aperture previously selected by an operator, and copies are made.

As shown in FIG. 6 of Ito, the combination mode uses horizontally fed A4 size main body common documents, and vertically fed A4 size special documents (cover page document, back cover page document, partition page document). In the combination mode, the images of the common documents are formed on a vertical A4 size copy sheet at a magnification of 0.7078 using the two-in-one mode. The images of special documents, if they are a cover page document or back cover page document, are copied on copy sheets fed from a supply aperture accommodating cover pages at equal magnification using the one-in-one mode. The image of special documents, if a partition page document, are copied on copy sheets fed from a supply aperture accommodating partition pages at equal magnification using the one-in-one mode.

Accordingly, the features of the claimed invention are not taught or suggested by the applied art. In accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention, grouping of the original group in which different types of originals are mixed, can be achieved in a single job. As set forth in for example Claim 1, a reading type changing part is provided that changes a type of reading of a plurality of mixed originals in response to a reading type change instruction input by an operator while the plurality of originals are being read. Accordingly, it becomes possible for a user to easily handle a complicated original such as for example, single-sided and double-sided mixed originals, and produce a desired type of copy therefrom. However, Ito merely discusses in step S11, that a check is made to determine whether or not two-in-one mode setting key 77 is on. If not on, then the two-in-one mode is canceled, and the two-in-one signal is reset. As such, the features of the claimed invention are not taught in the applied art and therefore, the applied art cannot provide at least the advantages discussed above.

Nakata does not make up for the deficiencies of Ito discussed above, nor does the Office Action particularly assert as such. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ito and Nakata is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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